



BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ART COMMISSION APPROVED MINUTES

May 10, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

City of Flagstaff – Microsoft Teams Remote Meeting

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Creag Znetko, (928) 213-2906 (or 774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

City Staff: Eliza Kretzmann – Staff Liaison, Jana Weldon – Project Administrator, Creag Znetko – Recording Secretary, VISTA AmeriCorps Member Erin Kaczmarowski

- A. **The Public is Invited to Attend this Remote Meeting:** Please join us via Microsoft Teams by clicking on the following link, which brings you to the live meeting: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Please turn your camera off and mute your microphone except when speaking. If you need an invitation to the meeting, email cznetko@flagstaffaz.gov prior to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10.

Provide Public Comment Prior to the Meeting: Email eliza.kretzmann@flagstaffaz.gov with your public comment prior to 3:00 p.m. with PUBLIC COMMENT in the subject on the Monday of the meeting and it will be read during the public comment section or during the item to which your comment pertains.

- A. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Garcia called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Anthony Garcia, Chair, *present*
Sandra Lubarsky, Vice-Chair, *present*
George Averbeck, *present*
J Michael Cruz, *present*

Carla McCord, *present*
Jeremy Slater, *present*
Kraig Weber, *absent*

C. UPCOMING EVENTS:

Viola awards are set for June 18 at the Pepsi Amphitheater and the commission is invited.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or acting on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commissioners may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. Public comment should be sent to eliza.kretzmann@flagstaffaz.gov, prior to 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting with PUBLIC COMMENT in the email subject or during the designated public participation section.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. April BPAC Meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Averbeck moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Cruz seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Recognition of George Averbeck for his service to the Commission.

Staff thanked Commissioner Averbeck for his several years of service. The commission gave sentiments for Commissioner Averbeck's service as well. Commissioner Averbeck reciprocated the sentiments and thanked the commission for "putting up with him" for all these years.

- B. Recruiting two BPAC Commissioners to serve on selection panel for Climate Change and Hope Bus Art Project – Erin Kaczmarowski.

Staff updated the commission on the panel selection for the Climate Change and Hope Bus Art Project and stated that two commissioners have volunteered to be on the panel. Staff will update the commission on progress.

G. ACTION ITEMS

- A. **Beautification in Action Grant Applicants Presentations and Determination of Funding:** Eliza Kretzmann, Beautification, Arts and Sciences Manager, Erin Kaczmarowski, VISTA AmeriCorps Member and Applicants.

Each applicant has about 5 minutes to present, with about 8 minutes of questions from the Commission.

1. 4:30 – Deborah Harris, Murdoch Center Garden
2. 4:45 – Bruce Aiken/David Stephens, Alley Art
3. 5:00 – Andrea Hartley, Terra BIRDS, Community Garden
4. 5:15 – Heather Stonestreet, Juvenile Court Mural
5. 5:30 – Barbara Trait, East Flagstaff Community Library, Planters and Art Benches

Suggested Action: Hear presentations and ask questions of applicants. After presentations by applicants, discuss which Beautification in Action grants to fund for this deadline with decisions made at this meeting.

Staff gave a brief description of how the BIA grant process has been modified to include a higher funding amount and the new grant cycle.

Murdoch Center Garden

Deborah Harris: Presented to the commission for the Murdoch Community Center life-size chess park. The applicant would like to enhance the chess park by adding landscaping to ensure the community can utilize this as a meeting space.

Chair Garcia: Budget looks good. This could inspire more funding from the community if this passes.

Ms. Harris: The grant amount may not be enough to cover all costs and welcomes any partnerships.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Is there a landscape designer that you are working with and is there a plan?

Ms. Harris: Landscape Connection drew a quick plan, but not an official professional plan.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Is there a plan to get a plan drawn?

Ms. Harris: Plans cost money and we would rather use the funding for the physical property instead of plans.

Commissioner Cruz: There are tables in the budget, will those suffice?

Ms. Harris: Not the ones for longevity. We are open for any partnerships and are excited for this opportunity. This is the first chess park in Flagstaff.

Alley Art

David Stephens: Presented the images from the artist to the commission.

Commissioner Cruz: Art the images on the vinyl wrap photographs?

Mr. Stephens: No, they are paintings by artist Bruce Aiken, original artwork replicated on vinyl wrap.

Commissioner Cruz: There seems to be issues with some of the images on the presentation.

Mr. Stephens: This is due to pixel count for the original artwork to protect it from infringement.

Chair Garcia: Are the images of the artwork for us to choose, A, B, C, or D?

Mr. Stephens: Likes item C on the presentation and the artist would like to use that image.

Commissioner McCord: Are we voting on the artwork images?

Chair Garcia: Not currently.

Staff: There is no precedence. How does the artist want to approach this?

Mr. Stephens: The artist prefers C, so we can nix the other images.

Community Garden:

Terra BIRDS/Andrea Hartley: Gave a brief history of the non-profit organization and the community gardens currently managed by Terra BIRDS. This will add a pollinator entry garden and include interpretive signage for the Bonito St Community Garden.

Commissioner Cruz: Curious about the stipend for the youth, how many, what are the ages and the timeline?

Ms. Hartley: Two different groups of youth we work with. There are youth from the juvenile detention center transition school that will not be paid as they are performing community service. The youth from Ponderosa High School will be paid minimum wage for the after school green jobs program. Would like to start the work this summer. July is a good month to plant due to Monsoon season.

Chair Garcia: Likes the aspect of involving the younger generation.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Loves the idea and the current garden. Can you give more information on the signage?

Ms. Hartley: Sure, signage will be used for explaining what a community garden is, identification of the flowers and plants, why these plants are important to pollinators, and educating why it's important to create these spaces. Also, that this can be done with low impact water design.

Commissioner Averbeck: How far is the Rio de Flag from this site?

Ms. Hartley: Right next to it.

Commissioner Averbeck: Do you have water rights to the Rio? Or water collection concepts.

Ms. Hartley: We try to maximize water collection as needed. Thank you for the opportunity.

Juvenile Court Mural

Casie Lightfoot: Gave a presentation for the Juvenile Detention Alternative Center mural. This will be painted on an underutilized pod in the current detention center. Would like to soften the space and make it more inviting for families. Image will be determined by the artist working with some of the youth in the program.

Commissioner McCord: Has worked with the artist previously and is confident that he understands what would be relevant for an image.

Chair Garcia: Just a quick question about the budget. Can you speak to the amount, please?

Ms. Lightfoot: A colleague worked with the artist for the proposal and can't speak to why the amount is what it is, although there is a little money set aside for contingency.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: If you had more money, could you expand the project?

Ms. Lightfoot: Talked with staff at the beginning of this process and would like to expand at some point. This is considered low hanging fruit and would like to get this done before the center opens in August.

Commissioner Averbeck: We had an application for a graffiti wall before, do you think we can get some of the youth involved in a project like that?

Ms. Lightfoot: The artist had an exhibit that really touched the kids. We can look at something along those lines in the future, but this is a different project. Thank you for the opportunity to present and we are trying to soften spaces that have been historically hard.

East Flagstaff Community Library

Barbara Tait: Presented to the commission on a potential project for the exterior of the East Flagstaff Community Library. Ms. Tait also mentioned the previous funded projects that have been completed in the past years. They have identified an artist to design wraps for the benches that are placed in the front of the building. There is another aspect that will repurpose old file cabinets into planters.

Commissioner McCord: Loves the project, would like to have the library think about the future roundabout that may produce more gardening space.

Ms. Tait: Have been in contact with staff regarding future projects.

Commissioner Cruz: Likes the idea, the budget states funding to buy the filing cabinets, is there a place that can donate?

Ms. Tait: That is there for a contingency in case we can't find any file cabinets to repurpose.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: This is a fun and energizing project. Where will the planters be placed?

Ms. Tait: They will be between the benches and the columns of the building. If we can get more cabinets for less money, we can put them where appropriate.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Why file cabinets?

Ms. Tait: Initially looked at having a metal work company fabricate some planters, but that was really expensive. Repurposing is more sustainable and fun.

Commissioner Averbeck: Waterproof the cabinets.

Ms. Tait: Yes, we will. Thank you for the time to present.

Discussion

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Would like to see the Murdoch Center and Library fully funded. Is there room to fund a landscape plan for both? If we were able to provide more funding, how can we go about doing that?

Staff: These are considered first steps and if the commission is willing, we can entertain this at the fall budget retreat. There is an existing line item that we could use for a landscaping plan for the Murdoch Center at this time.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Would like these to move forward with more funding.

Staff: If we would like to talk about a landscape plan, a future meeting would be appropriate.

Chair Garcia: Would like to fund as asked for as a starting point with the intent of discussing a line item at the budget retreat.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Clarify that we have funding available before the budget retreat.

Staff: Yes, we do, and can put it as an agenda item at a future meeting as time allows.

Commissioner McCord moved to approve all projects as submitted; Commissioner Slater seconded; the motion passed 5-0 with Commissioner Averbeck abstaining.

Staff: How would the commission like staff to move forward with the landscaping plans?

Commissioner McCord: For the library, we should be in contact with the entities building the roundabout.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Need to stay in contact with the applicants for the Murdoch Center and the library.

Staff: Yes, we will.

B. Closure of Beautification in Action Grant Recipient Mike Harding's Graffiti Wall Project: Jana Weldon, Beautification, Arts and Sciences Project Administrator.

Mike Harding was awarded a Beautification in Action Grant to create a participatory graffiti wall project at the Thorpe Park handball courts in fiscal year 2019-20. An extension was granted to complete in fiscal year 2020-21 because of COVID-19 restrictions. Artist discontinued to work on the project in Fall 2020.

Suggested Action: Hear brief statement and vote to approve closure of the Beautification in Action Grant to Mike Harding for the Graffiti Wall Project.

Staff updated the commission on the happenings of this approved BIA grant. Due to extenuating circumstances, the applicant is unable to complete the project.

MOTION: Commissioner Cruz moved to approve the closure of the BIA Grant. Commissioner McCord seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Vice Chari Lubarsky: Did the artist respond and ask if he could come back later?

Staff: Other staff has been in contact with the artist and we do not have an answer for the question.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. None at this time.

I. TO/FROM ITEMS

A. City Staff To/From and Updates: Erin Kaczmarowski, Eliza Kretzmann, Jana Weldon

- Update on Buffalo Park Interpretive Signage Now Complete – Eliza

Recently finished signage at Buffalo Park. This was started prior to Eliza's employment and she has received positive feedback.

- Little Phone Booth Library – approved by finance recession team, moving forward with community survey as required by BPAC motion of this project in 2020 – Eliza

This will be moving forward and looking at potential sites. A survey will be forthcoming to the community.

B. Chair To/From and Updates: Anthony Garcia

It appears the pandemic is not over, but we are able to interact more so than before. This is good news for the arts community.

C. City Council Liaison Updates

Inspired by the BIA grant proposals and likes the beautification aspect added to our community.

D. Additional To/From Items from the Commission?

None

E. Requests for future agenda items?

None

J. TIME/DATE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- BPAC Meeting: Monday, June 14, 4 p.m., Microsoft Teams Meeting.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Garcia adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.